

REMARKS

There remains pending in this application claims 1-13, of which claims 1 and 13 are independent. No claims have been added or cancelled.

In view of the revised claims, applicants submit this amendment with a RCE, and in light of these amendments and the following comments, favorable consideration and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

Each of independent claims 1 and 13 has been amended to further recite that the receiving means is rotatable and to further include the feature of a dust processing means for receiving the dust made by cutting the sheet bundle with the cutting means, and the dust processing means is disposed below the receiving means shifted in the certain direction. The dust processing means is illustrated, for example, in Figure 14 and is described at least in the specification on page 20, lines 13 et. seq., wherein it states that the cutting dust P4 dropped from the mat 91 are dropped in front of the pusher 97 according to the rotation of the mat 91 as shown in Figure 14 and are conveyed to the dust box 98 of the pusher 97 movable by a motor that is not shown.

Accordingly, the invention as now recited in independent claim 1 is directed to a sheet cutting apparatus which comprises cutting means for cutting a sheet bundle, rotatable receiving means for receiving the cutting means, dust processing means for receiving dust made by cutting the sheet bundle with the cutting means, disposed below the rotatable receiving means shifted in the certain direction, receiving position moving means for moving a receiving position on the receiving means on the rotatable receiving means for receiving the cutting means and counting means for counting a number of cutting times of the sheet bundles. The invention is

further characterized in that the receiving position moving means moves the receiving position on the rotatable receiving means according to information out of the counting means.

In the prior Official Action, claims 1-3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by McGee (U.S. Patent No. 4,130,041). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McGee. In view of the newly-amended claims, those rejections are respectfully traversed.

The invention as now set forth in each of the claims of the above application has been amended to provide for an apparatus that has a roller-shaped receiving means which is rotatable by a driving motor in a certain direction and a dust processing means for receiving a dust made by cutting of a sheet bundle with a cutting means, and which is disposed below the sheet receiving means shifted in the certain direction.

As a result of the above apparatus design, dust on the receiving means carried in a certain direction by rotating the receiving means falls into a certain position controlled by the receiving means. Therefore the dust processing is controlled by the receiving means and the dust processing means receives all of the dust therefrom.

Applicants submit that the applied art of record does not teach or suggest this combination of features of Applicants' invention.

The above features are contained in all of the claims of this application. Accordingly, each of those claims is believed patentable over the applied art of record.

The dependent claims recite additional features of the invention that still further distinguish them from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the above application are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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